INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1144 — Washington, D. C. — July 19, 1947

Census Bureau to Continue Canned Food Reports

J. C. Capt, Director of the Bureau of the Census, has advised the Association that the regular monthly reports on distributor's stocks of canned foods issued by the Bureau, will be continued throughout the present fiscal year. The reports cover data on wholesale distributor stocks of 14 different canned fruit and vegetable items, and additional information on canner packs and stocks. (This data is supplied by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.)

The decision to continue the distributor canned food reports was reached after it was found that there were sufficient funds in the Commerce Department budget to carry on the work.

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug has announced a series of hearings to be held between September 19 and October 27 by the Fish and Wildlife Service to give Pacific Coast fishermen an opportunity to discuss proposed changes in the Alaska commercial fisheries regulations for 1948. (See story on page 330.)

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Loading of revenue freight for the week ended July 12, 1947 totaled 806,961 cars, the Association of American Railroads announced this week. This was a decrease of 88,121 cars or 9.8 percent below the corresponding week in 1946, and a decrease of 76,582 cars or 8.7 percent below the same week in 1945. Loading of revenue freight for the week of July 12, increased 177,757 cars or 28.3 percent above the preceding week.

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Farm wage rates on July 1 were 3½ times higher than the 1935-39 average, BAE reports (story on page 331).

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Mexico has suspended imports of canned meats and fruits effective July 11. Details on page 334.

Can Size Survey Underway

The Association urges those canners who have not yet returned the can size survey form mailed them last week (July 8) to do so immediately. The survey is for the purpose of obtaining the views of the canning industry as to the extent to which the 1940 list of can size recommendations should be revised. This study will enable the Association's Committee on Simplification of Containers to bring up to date the voluntary program of can size standardization to which the industry has been committed for many years. The survey will cover all products except fish and meat and thus is not limited to the products contained in the present simplified practice regulation (SPR 155-40).

The Association pointed out in the covering letter to canners that SPR 155-40 "was the result of four years of intensive study by the National Canners Association, working in cooperation with the Bureau of Standards and reflects the experience and requirements of the industry at that time.

"The restriction of can size usage to this standard list was voluntary, but judging from the high degree of industry compliance the list proved to be satisfactory until the beginning of the war. When it became necessary to conserve tinplate the list of can sizes was further reduced (See, *Can Size Survey Underway*, page 331)

Army Revises Canned Fruit and Vegetable Requirements

The Office of the Quartermaster General on July 15 announced that the Army has reduced downward its requirements for both canned fruits and canned vegetables. According to the QMC's latest announcement, the Army will want 6,994,292 dozen cans of fruits, basis 2½'s, and 16,022,589 dozen cans of vegetables, basis 2's. The Army previously had announced in May (see INFORMATION LETTER for May 10, page 235) that it planned to purchase nearly 8½ million dozen cans of fruits and over 19 million dozen cans of vegetables. Official text of the Quartermaster Corps announcement appears on page 335 of this issue.

Committee Would Not Require Army Negotiated Purchases

In reporting out a bill (H. R. 1366) on July 16 to establish a uniform procurement procedure for the purchase of supplies and services by the armed services, the Senate Committee on the Armed Services failed to accept the recommendation of the canning industry that canned foods be purchased through negotiated buying. (For details, see *Congress* on page 336 of this issue.)

Fisheries

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following table, prepared from preliminary statistics compiled by the Fish and Wildlife Service, shows the pack of Alaska canned salmon, by regions and varieties through July 5, 1947, as compared with a similar period in 1946:

Districts	July 5, 1947	July 6, 1946
	Cases	*Cases*
Western Alaska	(1)	270,152
Central Alaska	290,492	198,938
Southeastern Alaska	6,530	2,995
Total	297,022	472,085
Species		
King	31,807	22,531
Red	248,586	403,133
Pink	3,691	9,191
Chum	12,453	36,825
Coho	485	405
Total	297,022	472,085

(1) Data not available.

Chile Fish Production Larger

The U. S. Department of Commerce reported this week that production of fish and shellfish in Chile in 1946 totaled 61,000 metric tons, an increase of 30 percent over the preceding year's catch of 47,000 tons, and 55 percent more than the output of 39,000 tons in 1944. A probable further increase in production is likely for 1947.

Exports are expected to show an increase in 1947 over the 1,666 metric tons shipped in 1946.

Hearings Scheduled on 1948 Alaskan Fishing Regulations

The U. S. Department of Interior has announced that public hearings will be held at 8 points in Alaska and at Seattle, Wash., during September and October to discuss the 1948 regulations governing commercial fishing in Alaska. The official text of the announcement and the schedule of meetings follow:

Pursuant to section 4 (a) of the Administrative Procedure Act, approved June 11, 1946 (Public Law 404, 79th Cong.), and the authority contained in the act of June 6, 1924 (43 Stat. 465, 48 U. S. C. 221, et seq.), as amended and supplemented, notice is hereby given that the Secretary intends to take the following action:

Adopt amended regulations permitting and governing the time, means, and methods for the taking of commercial fish in the waters of Alaska, and related matters.

The foregoing regulations are to be effective beginning February 1, 1948, and to continue in effect thereafter until further notice.

Interested persons are hereby given an opportunity to participate in preparing the regulations for issuance as set forth by submitting their views, data, or arguments in writing to the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., or by presenting their views at a series of open discussions scheduled to be held at the following designated places on the dates specified:

Juneau	September 19
Sitka	September 22
Craig	September 24
Petersburg	September 26
Ketchikan	September 29
Anchorage	October 2
Kodiak	October 4
Cordova	October 9
Seattle	October 27

Frozen and Cured Fish Stocks In Cold Storage Are Reported

Holdings of frozen and cured fish in cold storage on July 1, 1947, totaled 118,903,000 pounds, as compared with June 1, 1947, holdings of 106,118,000 pounds, and the July 1, 1946, stocks of 120,337,000 pounds, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of Interior has reported. The following table lists, by varieties, the quantities of frozen and cured fish held in cold storage during the respective periods:

SPECIES	July 1, 1947	June 1, 1947	July 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
Salt-water fish:			
Bait and animal food	4,059	5,164	2,137
Bluefish	77	89	131
Butterfish	74	99	141
Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, whole	1,069	1,020	1,710
Croakers	1,757	1,077	580
Eels	158	154	146
Fillets (miscellaneous)	21,441	21,379	17,140
Flounders (including fillets)	1,786	1,555	2,307
Halibut	12,704	8,350	17,728
Herring, sea	1,356	986	2,508
Mackerel (Boston, including fillets)	5,107	2,887	4,264
Mullet	509	883	965
Sablefish (black cod)	3,209	3,509	2,635
Salmon (all species)	5,670	5,006	4,359
Scup (porgies)	835	501	871
Sea trout (weakfish, gray and spotted)	378	462	1,537
Shad and shad roe	420	342	1,047
Smelts (sea)	876	917	1,366
Swordfish	350	214	205
Whiting (including fillets)	6,591	2,239	6,286
Miscellaneous salt-water fish	7,483	7,346	10,639
Fresh-water fish:			
Bait and animal food	1,405	1,585	1,325
Blue pike and sauger (including fillets)	80	75	90
Catfish and bullheads	292	173	127
Chubs	157	172	385
Lake herring & cisco (including fillets)	430	578	1,528
Lake trout	322	300	611
Pickerel, jacks or yellow jacks	93	89	131
Sturgeon and spoonbill cat	215	235	220
Suckers	29	22	40
Tullibee	201	252	255
Yellowperch (including fillets)	161	227	49
Yellow pike (or walleye) (including fillets)	75	65	142
Whitefish	884	1,095	1,050
Miscellaneous fresh-water fish	1,093	937	1,121
Shellfish:			
Lobster tails (spiny lobster)	506	630	442
Scallops	1,242	1,072	708
Shrimp	4,643	4,484	6,659
Squid	1,646	1,660	2,105
Miscellaneous shellfish	2,203	1,934	2,116
Frozen fish, total	91,856	79,733	97,806
Cured fish, total	27,047	26,385	22,531
Total, all fish	118,903	106,118	120,337

Personnel

Texas Canners Change Name; Appoint New Secretary

The East Texas Canners Association has filed application for a charter to change its name to the Southwest Canners Association, Inc., with headquarters at Tyler, Texas. The Association also recently named Clyde L. Haden as secretary-treasurer to take the place formerly held by Roy E. Smith, who resigned this position to devote full time to his personal business.

Officers of the Southwest Canners Association, Inc., are as follows: President—Frank R. Dorsey, Athens Canning Co., Athens, Tex.; first vice president—E. R. Adams, Cass County Canning Co., Atlanta, Tex.; second vice president—J. W. Woldert, Woldert Canning Co., Tyler, Tex.; and secretary-treasurer—Clyde L. Haden, Tyler State Bank Bldg., Tyler, Tex.

The new secretary of the Southwest Canners Association is a Tyler, Tex., accountant and has lived in that city for little over three years. Prior to this, Mr. Haden was connected with the Kay Kimbell interests at Fort

Worth, Tex., for a number of years, his last position being that of traveling auditor for their wholesale branches.

Barksdale Succeeds McNamara as QMC Chief of Subsistence

Lt. Col. William E. Barksdale has been appointed chief of the subsistence branch, supply division, office of the Quartermaster General, succeeding Col. A. T. McNamara, who has been ordered to the Army War College in Washington, D. C., the War Department announced this week. In this capacity, Lt. Col. Barksdale will have complete charge of all canned food purchases for the armed services.

The new QMC subsistence chief was born in Abbeville, S. C., and is a graduate of The Citadel, Charleston, S. C. He began his military career on October 26, 1926, when he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry reserves.

His subsistence experience began in March, 1935, when he was assigned to active duty with the Civilian Conservation Corps. During Lt. Col. Barksdale's assignment with the CCC, he established the cooks and bakers schools for the 4th Corps area. After a series of promotions he was assigned to the Office of the Quartermaster General in Washington in 1942, and a year later was sent overseas and appointed chief of the subsistence division, U. S. Headquarters Service of Supplies, in Australia.

Following a series of assignments during and after the war in various Pacific areas, Lt. Col. Barksdale was returned to the United States in July, 1946, and was appointed executive officer to the chief of the subsistence branch, Office of the Quartermaster General, a post which he has filled continuously until his recent assignment as chief of the branch.

Shrimp Canners Officers

Officers of the National Shrimp Canners Association elected at its annual meeting in New Orleans on July 15, are as follows:

President—T. B. Holcombe, Indian Ridge Canning Co., Inc., Houma, La.; first vice president—C. M. Carriere, Southern Shell Fish Co. Harvey, La.; second vice president—A. O. Soares, Biloxi Canning & Packing Co., Biloxi, Miss.; secretary-treasurer—Leonora Decuers, New Orleans, La. (re-elected).

FMC Promotes Cary

Joseph B. Cary, vice president and director of the Food Machinery Corp., has been elected as executive vice president of the corporation, effective August 1. The Food Machinery Corp., at the same time, promoted Ernest Hart from vice president and sales manager of the Niagara Chemical Division to manager of the Corporation's Niagara territory. Mr. Hart also was made a vice president of the firm.

Georgians Honor Graefe

Walter L. Graefe, president of the Pomona Products Co., Griffin, Ga., has been elected president of the newly organized Georgia State Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Graefe, a former president of the National Canners Association, has been prominently identified in civic and industry affairs for many years. He is a member of the Association's Administrative Council, and Finance, Legislative, and Taxation Committees.

Burch Joins Texsun Exchange

James A. Burch, former secretary of the Texas Canners Association, has joined the juice sales department of the Texsun Citrus Exchange at Weslaco, Tex. Mr. Burch recently sold his interest in the Val Verde Products Co. at Mercedes, Tex., to his former partner, L. F. Drake.

USDA Meat Production Report

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended July 12 totaled 295 million pounds, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

CAN SIZE SURVEY UNDERWAY

(Concluded from page 329)

and became a part of the Tin Conservation Order M-81, which prohibited the use of any size not included.

"The M-81 restrictions were removed on March 7, 1947. The effect of the removal of mandatory can size controls was to return the industry to the voluntary program and the list of sizes recommended in S.P.R. 155-40.

"Any successful program of standardization must allow for both changes in consumer requirements and in processing techniques. To meet this basic principle it is believed the industry should have an opportunity to revise the standard list of can sizes."

Labor

Farm Wage Rates Continue Up Employment Same as Year Ago

Farm wage rates, continuing to rise, on July 1 were 3½ times higher than the 1935-39 average, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. The number of persons working on farms totaled 11,518,000, about the same as on July 1, 1946.

Farm wage rates continued upward along with recent advances in industrial wages. Nationally the rate per month without board made the greatest increase since last July. At $114, this rate of pay now averages 8 percent above July of last year, 7 percent higher than April of this year and over 3 times the 1935-39 average. Other pay rates increased almost as much.

The average of all rates of pay reached new peaks for all geographic divisions of the country on July 1. However, in some regions individual rates were slightly higher during the latter half of 1946. Wage rates averaged 10 percent higher than last July in the Mountain States, whereas in the Pacific States, where hired employment continued well above last year's level, they changed very little.

At the usual summer peak around July 1, the number of persons working farms was about the same as a year earlier. There was little seasonal change from June 1. Weather during the last week in June was about the same as a year ago, except that floods in the Midwest limited farm emloyment locally. This year's later season changed labor requirements in some areas. The number of farm operators and unpaid members of their families working on farms on July 1 was about the same as last year. As usual there was little change since June 1. The number of hired farm workers increased a little less than the usual seasonal amount and on July 1 totaled about the same as last year.

Corn Syrups Price Exempt

Removal from price control of corn syrups, corn sugars, corn syrup solids, and blended syrups containing 10 percent more of corn syrup or corn sugar, effective as of July 15, 1947, was announced this week by the Sugar Rationing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Statistics

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Continue to Increase

Stocks of frozen fruits in cold storage on July 1, 1947, totaled 338 million pounds, compared with 298 million a year earlier, according to a report just released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The increase in stocks during June, 1947, was 10 million pounds compared with an increase of 20 million for June last year and an average June increase of 15 million pounds.

Frozen vegetable stocks in cold storage totaled 252 million pounds on July 1, 1947, compared with 176 million on July 1, 1946. Stocks of frozen vegetables increased by 21 million pounds during June, 1947, compared with 31 million during June last year and an average June increase of 19 million pounds.

Frozen fruit and vegetable stocks by commodities for July 1, 1947, with comparisons, as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, are shown in the following table:

	July 1, 1947	June 1, 1947	July 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
FROZEN FRUITS			
Apples	41,235	45,853	41,701
Apricots	17,422	18,536	18,184
Blackberries	11,830	11,537	11,146
Blueberries	8,439	10,016	9,471
Cherries	28,300	31,218	12,562
Grapes	5,338	6,304	7,595
Peaches	34,992	39,953	38,606
Plums and prunes	11,611	12,287	11,542
Raspberries	15,684	12,221	7,903
Strawberries	76,613	54,777[1]	65,140
Young, Logan, Boysen, etc.	13,398	8,702	6,678
Fruit juices and purees	22,146	22,714	20,646
All other fruits	50,549	53,582	46,455
Total	337,666	327,700	297,629
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus	21,856	17,357	20,269
Beans, lima	7,744	10,380	4,196
Beans, snap	9,940	12,306	7,615
Broccoli	13,783	15,292	14,298
Brussels sprouts	5,312	6,088	2,615
Cauliflower	7,550	8,230	5,098
Corn, sweet	18,887	21,077	7,099
Peas, green	84,511	56,515	40,037
Pumpkin and squash	8,368	8,162	4,781
Spinach	25,160	25,967	26,505
All other vegetables	48,980	49,453	43,191
Total	252,091	230,827	175,704

[1] The heavy revision of the June 1 strawberry figure was caused by 3 late reports from plants with unseasonally heavy June 1 stocks.

Meat Canning During June Is Below June, 1946, Total

The quantity of meat used in canned meat and meat food products processed under federal inspection in June, 1947, totaled 96 million pounds, compared with 119 million in June last year, according to information compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The totals for the first half of 1947 are 732 million pounds compared with 920 million for the corresponding months of 1946.

The quantity of meat used in canning under federal inspection for June, 1947, with comparisons, is shown below:

	June		Jan.-June	
	1946	1947	1946	1947
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
Beef	10,561	7,518	71,970	52,846
Pork	64,895	27,963	376,473	211,765
Sausage	3,929	7,084	37,134	49,280
Soup	17,354	35,005	219,163	253,722
Other	21,779	18,611	215,071	164,510
Total	118,518	96,181	919,811	732,123

Stocks of Canned Tomatoes

Total civilian stocks of canned tomatoes in canners' hands July 1, 1947, totaled 362,295 actual cases equivalent to 483,000 cases, basis 24/2's, according to the Association's Division of Statistics. Canners' shipments during June, 1947, totaled 289,298 actual cases equivalent to 372,000 cases, basis 24/2's. These compare with July 1, 1946, civilian stocks in canners' hands of 97,000 cases (including unshipped supplies from the new pack amounting to 1,314,000 cases to July 1) and June, 1946, canner shipments of 922,000 cases, basis 24/2's, according to a report of the Department of Commerce.

The details as to stocks and shipments by canners of canned tomatoes, as compiled from reports of canners who packed about 89 percent of the 1946 pack, together with estimates for those not reporting, are shown below:

Areas	Civilian stocks		Civilian shipments
	June 1, 1947	July 1, 1947	June 1947
	Cases	*Cases*	*Cases*
Northeast	9,576	3,436	6,140
Mid-Atlantic	133,579	60,606	72,973
Mid-West	36,849	15,491	21,358
West	447,493	267,062	180,431
South	24,096	15,700	8,396
Total U. S.	651,593	362,295	289,298

Census Bureau Releases Data on Food Exports and Imports

Exports and imports of canned foods by commodities for May, 1946, and May, 1947, and cumulative for the period January through May, 1946, and for the same four months of this year, are shown on the following page. This information was compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics from the foreign trade figures of the Bureau of Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Canned Food Deliveries

Deliveries of agricultural commodities and food products by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to foreign governments, UNRRA, and to U. S. government agencies during the month of May totaled 1,752,000 pounds as compared with 2,450,000 pounds in April, officials of the Agriculture Department reported this week.

Canned food deliveries made by USDA during May are as follows: Fish, 4,724,200; milk, evaporated, 10,956,674; meat, 2,659,988; horse meat and gravy, 5,430,030; apricots, 269,656; figs, 191,604; peaches, 248,108; pineapple, crushed, 126,238; apricot jam, 46,581; peach jam, 197,984; plum jam, 20,049; tomato juice, 56,925.

Meat Allocation Announced

The U. S. Department of Agriculture this week announced that approximately 16,876,000 pounds of meat and meat products have been allocated for commercial export during the July-September quarter of 1947. This quantity compares with a revised allocation of approximately 155 million pounds for the April-June quarter of this year.

This quarter's meat allocation will be divided approximately as follows: Philippine Islands—6,000,000 pounds; United Kingdom and British services overseas—2,000,000 pounds; French colonies—707,000 pounds; British dominions, colonies and protectorates—643,000 pounds; American republics—5,675,000 pounds; Netherland colonies—202,000 pounds; other commercial exports—1,649,000 pounds.

Latest Canned Food Export and Import Statistics, with Comparisons

	May, 1946		May, 1947		Jan.-May, 1946		Jan.-May, 1947	
	Pounds	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*
Exports								
Meats, total	83,892,315	$27,776,479	12,228,814	$4,950,701	513,975,504	$141,901,296	26,743,447	$10,333,330
Beef, corned, etc.	14,971,820	4,447,481	3,902,132	1,441,186	94,683,449	25,494,309	4,188,067	1,521,943
Tushonka	14,705,813	5,503,332	21,126	8,935	33,886,085	13,489,157	4,311,862	1,791,683
Pork	15,463,591	5,505,104	6,399,791	2,713,508	44,452,592	15,402,357	9,748,623	4,289,197
Sausage, bologna, franks, etc.	5,900,443	1,776,568	1,023,864	468,199	39,085,146	12,728,747	4,336,596	1,610,829
Other meat	32,850,648	10,543,994	881,901	318,873	301,868,232	74,786,726	4,158,299	1,119,678
Vegetables, total	9,271,343	1,182,389	9,651,008	1,312,676	113,355,865	8,361,763	50,374,528	7,451,757
Asparagus	695,099	175,381	421,657	105,261	1,797,353	430,521	3,737,321	948,619
Beans, baked and with pork	690,928	73,566	1,212,035	134,965	4,416,149	517,104	5,020,727	606,941
Corn	419,595	44,041	204,866	24,436	2,283,681	250,370	2,470,668	309,127
Peas	1,496,115	156,929	830,357	79,827	6,987,361	745,172	4,975,771	509,588
Soups	1,157,278	193,439	739,955	145,429	5,173,160	1,384,963	6,190,441	1,072,655
Tomatoes	.....	.....	320,818	33,032	.....	.....	771,925	101,515
Tomato paste and puree	226,530	33,593	3,184,529	398,043	2,948,014	382,137	9,414,624	1,398,965
Tomato juice	823,038	47,715	297,676	26,110	67,900,994	2,078,445	2,685,006	223,208
Catsup, etc.	480,893	83,656	598,209	111,560	4,009,792	698,565	4,080,390	819,470
Other vegetables and juices	3,291,867	374,069	1,840,906	254,013	17,839,361	1,874,486	11,071,655	1,461,669
Condensed milk	9,785,648	1,642,399	7,549,404	1,527,596	51,286,675	8,602,992	32,072,212	6,239,715
Evaporated milk	101,652,889	12,395,851	39,517,366	5,203,227	490,579,631	57,616,531	140,631,342	20,131,121
Fish:								
Salmon	619,520	135,829	1,181,173	543,413	45,645,821	11,205,882	46,249,209	12,538,190
Sardines	3,549,111	426,389	3,604,053	978,640	49,275,616	8,151,326	43,618,584	6,718,743
Cod, haddock, lake, pollock, cusk	668	161	6,029,110	849,814	1,398	348	9,433,141	1,213,200
Herring	52,121	10,032	119,720	18,294	1,672,588	254,816	1,295,696	157,308
Other fish, except shellfish	705,107	140,457	1,125,257	257,945	8,797,322	1,322,827	8,384,939	1,653,867
Shellfish:								
Shrimp	660	400	541,630	416,287	8,933	5,372	1,071,222	997,923
Other shellfish	2,523,778	340,138	2,535,594	509,867	3,144,584	569,295	7,063,148	1,643,858
Fruits, total	11,624,242	1,479,755	12,765,941	1,713,355	45,572,558	5,985,364	146,234,338	19,334,758
Grapefruit	20,458	5,683	351,903	32,627	76,266	14,840	42,828,891	4,336,928
Berries	8,832	2,367	24,918	7,536	321,362	50,300	296,542	62,954
Apples and sauce	51,345	7,441	278,924	31,886	400,997	56,401	1,245,103	166,691
Grapes	.....	.....	.....	.....	538	95	.....	.....
Apricots	843,104	100,074	3,368,234	387,680	13,524,621	1,722,447	19,694,947	2,322,731
Cherries	201,491	29,793	109,158	27,790	545,814	99,754	630,400	161,380
Prunes and plums	131,057	15,061	248,806	29,205	478,165	56,154	4,813,375	550,558
Peaches	1,861,311	206,305	5,330,068	643,245	9,092,418	1,095,613	33,341,766	4,204,683
Pears	495,213	72,908	941,200	176,512	4,576,780	671,630	13,879,439	2,427,975
Pineapple	5,083,379	610,730	649,085	132,118	9,086,241	1,123,383	10,062,039	1,650,987
Fruit salad and cocktail	2,790,476	408,289	1,316,578	220,517	6,062,812	923,083	17,700,910	3,137,534
Other fruits	137,576	21,104	147,077	24,239	1,406,544	171,664	1,740,926	312,337
Fruit juices* (in gallons):								
Pineapple	113,170	84,220	37,140	34,429	404,928	316,708	426,950	381,324
Grapefruit	214,494	159,403	509,360	221,784	5,464,524	2,129,872	2,721,701	1,217,322
Orange	235,544	234,677	332,237	241,454	2,521,118	1,583,924	2,426,238	3,166,255
Other fruit juices	436,498	501,871	534,273	397,875	1,958,388	1,692,999	2,515,370	1,911,288
Imports								
Meat:								
Beef	57,881	11,748	76	20	216,380	51,541	986,389	285,067
Other meats	18,102	6,085	241	47	131,207	39,943	29,162	5,451
Milk, condensed and evaporated	900	62	.....	.....	629,929	58,205	832	120
Fish:								
Packed in oil:								
Sardines	3,055,452	858,638	1,192,996	404,216	9,889,344	3,868,536	7,707,439	2,935,068
Anchovies	394,050	304,995	12,690	10,240	1,866,847	1,434,024	184,943	134,502
Other fish in oil	723,975	327,550	791,596	461,897	2,714,550	1,142,437	3,602,635	1,849,074
Other fish not in oil	918,829	265,187	1,455,004	316,787	2,467,199	759,679	4,622,650	1,091,135
Shellfish:								
Clams and oysters	11,116	11,532	9,532	9,043	169,219	101,489	64,139	64,374
Lobsters	68,234	96,530	61,232	66,839	266,341	284,696	126,125	142,281
Vegetables:								
Pimientos	735,563	281,478	28,303	9,584	1,790,275	689,371	55,679	17,983
Tomatoes	.....	.....	537,586	61,788	15,254	923	3,421,242	419,677
Tomato paste and sauce	509	90	257	29	4,000	808	197,320	37,962
Other vegetables	6,827	4,139	726	1,117	256,778	44,365	103,988	22,909
Fruit:								
Pineapple, dutiable	1,787,977	259,223	3,359,723	466,844	5,549,575	823,118	10,381,098	1,429,218

(*) Including concentrates.

Retail Grocery Sales Increase 30 Percent Over Last Year

May 1, 1947, sales of retail grocery and grocery-fresh-meat stores were estimated at $1,942,000,000 by the Office of Business Economics of the Department of Commerce. This represents an increase of 30 percent from May, 1946, sales and an increase of 9 percent from April of this year. The monthly dollar volume of grocery sales is triple the 1939 rate.

May retail chain store sales, which accounted for 39 percent of the total, were up 53 percent from May of last year. Based on a sample of stores reporting to the Bureau of the Census, May sales of independent stores were 14 percent higher than May last year and 8 percent higher than April, 1947.

May, 1947, sales of grocery wholesalers were estimated at $653,000,000 —a decrease of 3 percent from May, 1946. This is the first time in 20 months that such comparisons with the previous year have shown a decrease. Inventories held by grocery wholesalers the end of May, based on a sample of 576 reporting, were 46 percent larger than the corresponding date a year earlier but 6 percent smaller than at the end of April.

Foreign Trade

Agreement Facilitates U. S. Fruit Exports to Sweden

An understanding reached between the Governments of Sweden and the United States provides for relaxation of import controls imposed by the former country March 15, 1947, and paves the way for a substantial movement of United States fruits and fruit products to Sweden during the next 12 months.

Fruits and fruit products, including canned fruits, listed under Schedule I of the Trade Agreement of 1935 include fresh apples, pears, plums, and grapefruit; dried apples, pears, apricots and peaches; raisins, sweet canned or preserved pineapple in large containers, and other canned or preserved fruits including peaches, apricots, pears, mixed fruits for salad, pineapple, and grapefruit.

Under the terms of the understanding, which became effective July 1, licenses are to be granted for the importation into Sweden of commodities listed in Schedule I of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement, and on the restricted list, to an amount, for the period from January 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948, equivalent to not less than 150 percent of like imports during the calendar year 1946. The quantities of other restricted commodities licensed for import will be determined at Sweden's discretion.

The establishment of "hardship" quotas for commodities, such as raisins, which were imported in relatively small quantities in 1946, is under consideration. Such action would provide for the issuance of licenses for the importation of greater quantities of these commodities.

Mexico Suspends Imports of Canned Meats and Fruits

Under Article 10 of the bilateral trade agreement existing between the United States and Mexico, the Mexican Government has placed a ban on the import of certain "non-essential" products until Mexico's dollar exchange situation has been readjusted. The outright embargo applies to certain canned foods, while in respect to others import duties have been raised without quantitative restrictions.

Canned foods affected by the suspension order include canned meats, described as "canned animal foodstuffs, even if containing vegetable products in any proportion." (Commerce officials point out that this will prohibit the importation of canned soups containing beef stock.) Also prohibited are canned fruits in syrup or in their own juice, cut and dried fruits, and fresh fruits. Canned vegetables are *not* barred.

There are no quantitative restrictions on canned fish, but higher import duties are imposed on items, such as: Codfish, dried salted or smoked in any container (former duty 40 centavos per legal kilogram—new duty one peso); canned sardines weighing up to 5 kilograms, (former duty 70 centavos—new duty 1.50 pesos per legal kilogram). Import duties on other canned fish are similarly raised.

As interpreted by State Department officials, Article 10 provides that either country may establish quantitative restrictions on commodities specified in the existing bilateral trade agreement after due consultation with the other government in order to maintain the exchange value of its currency. Mexican Government officials have been in consultation with the United States State Department on this subject for several months.

Indications that certain import restrictions were forthcoming reached American exporters when on May 18th of this year the Bank of Mexico issued a notice to its member banks curtailing credits on imports of what were termed "luxury" items. This notice led to the placing of a number of speculative orders by Mexican importers, which orders are being carefully scanned by the Mexican Government, Commerce Department officials state.

The embargo decree became effective July 11th, but there are provisions for the granting of import permits on all shipments in transit and also for bona fide orders placed before May 18, 1947, for which payment arrangements already have been fixed, and under which deliveries are to be made before October 15 of this year. The decree establishing increased rates of duties is effective July 26, 1947. Applications for import licenses for such orders must be made by Mexican importers before August 15, 1947. Hardship cases are to be given special consideration—each on its merits.

Quotas later on will be established to replace the suspension orders, all of which will be withdrawn as the Mexican exchange situation improves.

FAO to Meet in Geneva

The annual conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization is to be held in Geneva on August 25, at which time it is expected that a new organization to be known as the World Food Council will be created.

At the Geneva Conference the delegates of participating nations will present their estimates of regional food production and potential consumption needs. On March 6 at a meeting in Rome FAO regional committees agreed on a program of cooperation to improve world food production and distribution. In anticipation of the Conference on August 25, these regional committees have been preparing data to indicate the part each European country is equipped to play in world recovery.

Rice Export Allocations

July-December, 1947, export allocations of 3,800,000 hundred-pound bags of rice have been established, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced. This is approximately the same as the quantity allocated during the corresponding period last year.

Meetings

Kraut Packers to Meet

The annual meeting of the National Kraut Packers Association will be held at the Hotel Reiger, Sandusky, Ohio, on July 29 and 30, President John M. Stroup of that association has announced. The first day's session of the kraut packers meeting will be devoted to the golf tournament and to the NKPA annual dinner party which will be staged that night. The following day's program has been planned to include a number of prominent speakers on important subjects of interest to kraut packers.

Sardine Institute to Meet

California Sardine Products Institute will hold a combined annual meeting and sardine industry convention on July 21 and 22 in the Hotel Rio Del Mar at Aptos, Calif. A number of outstanding speakers have been engaged to address the meeting and H. Thomas Austern, National Canners Association Counsel, will speak at a luncheon before the group on July 21.

Forthcoming Meetings

July 21-22—California Sardine Products Institute, Annual Meeting, Hotel Rio Del Mar, Aptos, Calif.

July 28-August 1—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., Mold Count School, Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

July 29-30—The National Kraut Packers Association, Annual Meeting, Hotel Reiger, Sandusky, Ohio.

August 4-29—Ohio State University, College of Agriculture, Third Frozen Food Locker Operators School, Columbus, Ohio.

October 6-7—Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute, 15th Annual Meeting, Hotel Sheraton, Springfield, Mass.

November 6-7—Ozark Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Connor Hotel, Joplin, Mo.

November 10-11—Wisconsin Canners Association, 43rd Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.

November 10-12—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 39th Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N. Y.

November 20-21—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Convention, Savery Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa.

November 20-21—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Fall Convention, Traymore Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

December 11-12—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., 62nd Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y.

January 7-9—Northwest Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore.

January 13-17—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 16-17—National Pickle Packers Association, Winter Meeting, New York, N. Y.

January 18-23—National Canners Association, Annual Convention (hotel to be announced), Atlantic City, N. J.

January 18-23—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Exhibit, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 19—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

March 15-18—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, Chicago, Ill.

Proposals for Lemon Hearing

The U. S. Department of Agriculture this week announced that evidence will be received on additional proposed amendments to the California-Arizona lemon marketing agreement and order program. A public hearing will begin at 10 a.m., in Room 212 U. S. Court House, First Avenue and Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona, on August 4, 1947, and be continued at 10 a.m., in Room 324 Federal Building, Los Angeles, on August 7, 1947.

Supplies

Sugar Deliveries Increase

Deliveries of sugar for U. S. consumption by primary distributors for the five months, January through May, 1947, totaled 2,362,061 tons or 11 percent more than deliveries of 2,161,986 tons during the corresponding months of 1946, according to a report issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Stocks of sugar on hand May 31, 1947, totaled 1,598,070 tons or about 50 percent more than the 1,065,053 tons on hand May 31, 1946.

Procurement

Army Reduces Canned Fruit and Vegetable Requirements

The canned fruits and vegetable requirements for the armed services, to be procured by the Office of the Quartermaster General from the 1947 pack, which were tentatively announced in May, have been revised, the War Department announced today (July 15).

The estimated requirements on 11 items of canned fruits have been decreased from the original announcement, while 4 have been increased. Eleven items of canned vegetables have been decreased, and 5 have been increased.

The revised requirements as of July 1, 1947, are as follows:

Canned Fruits	Doz. 2½'s
Apples	491,373
Applesauce	202,652
Apricots	640,360
Blackberries	155,014
Blueberries	43,998
Boysenberries	5,636
Cherries, sour	623,697
Cherries, sweet	74,177
Figs	92,700
Fruit cocktail	949,544
Peaches	341,526
Pears	713,122
Pineapple	1,478,226
Pineapple juice	1,153,477
Plums	28,800

Canned Vegetables	Doz. 2's
Asparagus	976,243
Beans, green and wax	1,181,902
Beans, lima	453,795
Beets	510,979
Carrots	914,883
Corn	1,496,470
Peas	2,594,089
Potatoes, sweet[1]	38,935
Pumpkin	192,977
Sauerkraut	575,160
Spinach	862,978
Tomatoes	2,997,334
Tomato catsup	662,990
Tomato juice	2,085,478
Tomato paste	27,000
Tomato puree	451,376

Pickles	Gallons
All types	1,786,580

[1] More of this item expected at later date.

The exemption from requirements of formal advertising for procurement by negotiation on perishable subsistence, wheat and rye flour; canned fruits, vegetables, and fish; and dried fruits, formerly granted through June 30, has been extended to be effective through July 31, 1947.

Congress

Adjournment

Congressional leaders are driving hard for final adjournment of the first session of the 80th Congress on July 26. Under the provisions of the Congressional Reorganization Act passed last year, special action is required by Congress to keep it in session beyond July 31 of any year. Bills that have not received conclusive action with the adjournment of this session retain their status with the convening of the next session.

Farm Labor

The House Committee on Agriculture at an executive session on July 11 decided to put aside for this session of Congress any further consideration of a program for a permanent farm labor supply program. The Committee, however, agreed to recommend a program for the disposition of government owned and operated farm labor camps.

A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to dispose of such camps and facilities through grants or otherwise to public or nonprofit associations of farmers for the purpose of housing agricultural workers has received favorable Senate Agriculture Committee action. The House Committee's proposal, which was developed on July 17, would authorize the sale of labor camps at a nominal sum until January 30, 1948, and would authorize their rental on a use basis until June 30, 1949, to public or nonprofit farmer associations for use as agricultural labor camps.

Government Procurement

In reporting on July 16 a bill (H. R. 1366) to establish a uniform procurement procedure for the purchase of supplies and services, by the armed services, the Senate Committee on the Armed Services failed to accept the recommendation of the canning industry that canned fruits, vegetables, and sea foods be purchased through the negotiated buying method. The recommendation of the industry was presented to the Committee at a public hearing on July 1 by counsel for the Association (see INFORMATION LETTER of July 5, 1947, p. 313). The proposal was opposed as a peacetime procurement method by the War Department.

Salt

Mrs. Frances P. Bolton, of Ohio, introduced a new salt bill (H. R. 4211) on July 15. The new proposal would require the addition of suitable iodides only in salt sold or to be sold in containers containing three pounds or less of salt which will pass through a number 20 standard sieve. Her earlier measure (H. R. 2717) was opposed by the Association on the ground that the use of iodized salt in processing foods might produce undesirable effects (see INFORMATION LETTER of June 14, 1947, p. 288).

Water Pollution

The Barkley-Taft water pollution measure (S. 418) passed the Senate on July 16. The bill would provide for the development of a program for preventing, abating, and controlling water pollution; for loans; and for court actions to enforce remedial measures recommended by the Surgeon General.

No action has been taken by the House Committee on Ways and Means on the Kee-Kilgore measure (H. R. 1047-S. 244) to allow tax deductions for the construction of treatment works since public hearings were held on July 7 (see INFORMATION LETTER of July 12, 1947, p. 323).

War Powers

The President signed on July 15 an extension of certain powers under Title III of the Second War Powers Act until February 29, 1948. Among the extended powers is control over tin and tin products, import and export controls on certain items, and transportation controls.

Sugar Act

The House passed on July 11, the proposed new Sugar Act which amends the Sugar Act of 1937 and extends quota and other controls for an additional five-year period, and the Senate Committee on Finance approved the measure on July 17.

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